**Overcrowding of the Ahmedabad Railway Station**

431. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the issue of overcrowding of the Ahmedabad railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any plan to develop Sabarmati Station to ease the congestion at the Ahmedabad station;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, what other alternative arrangement Government have planned in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) There is no overcrowding at Ahmedabad station at present.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Adeqaute terminal facilities are available at Ahmedabad railway station to cater to the present level of traffic.

**Pending guage conversion project in Karnataka**

432. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many gauge conversion projects are pending in Karnataka;

(b) what is the budget provision made during 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(c) the expenditure incurred so far on each of the project; and

(d) the reason for delay project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) Details of the 5 guage conversion projects which are in progress in Karnataka are as under:—

| Project | Budget provision 96-97 | Budget provision 97-98 | Expenditure upto 31.3.97 | Reasons for delay |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hotgi-Bijapur-Gadag | 25.00 | 31.10 | 78.31 | Hotgi-Bijapur is in good progress and would be completed within this financial year and Gadag-Bijapur will take 2 more years. The main reasons for delay is constraint of resources. |
| Shimoga-Talguppa | 1.00 | 9.71 | 401.00 | The work is being progressed as per availability of resources and will be completed in the coming years. |
| Hassan-Mangalore | 30.00 | 24.00 | 64.08 | There is no delay. Work is progressing as per target. |
| Holenarsipur-Mysore | 1.00 | 68.53 | 35.00 | There is no delay. Work is progressing as per target. |
| Mysore-Chamarajana gar | — | .001 | — | This is a new work and will be taken after obtaining the requisite clearances. |